

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) SECURITY INFORMATION REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from Potsdam 50X1-HUM

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 50X1-HUM

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 25 January 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES 6 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARK

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1. Between 3 and 15 December 1951, the northern section of the Delius Kaserno in Potsdam (N 53/Z 63) quartered about 135 officers and 900 men who belonged to eight batteries equipped with a total of 32 artillery pieces of 122-mm and 152-mm. Some of the artillery pieces had solid tires and some had pneumatic tires. Soldiers referred to their unit as a brigade. 50X1-HUM

The unit was commanded by a colonel, who was seldom seen, and whose deputy was a lieutenant colonel who wore a big moustache and was called Husin by the soldiers, probably because of his moustache. Colonel Zudarikov (fnu) was administrative officer, His assistant, Junior Lieutenant Alloshin (fnu), was due for discharge in early December.

Six additional trucks arrived with the division headquarters

2. Reveille for the troops in the northern section of the Delius Kaserno was 6 a.m., followed by callisthenics in the barracks yard. The troops fell in at 7 a.m. and were reported by the duty officer to Lieutenant Colonel "Husin" who, in turn, reported to the colonel in case the latter was present. Following a short morning address, the troops passed in review before several high-ranking officers, standing on a special reviewing stand, and subsequently started routine duties. The activities observed between 3 and 15 December were the following:

3 December. Crews of 10 soldiers each practiced aiming and loading with eight 152-mm guns from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., while about 120 soldiers practiced at Bornstedterfeld. Theoretical instruction in the quarters began at 5 p.m.

4 December. The troops received instruction in the garages, policed the billeting area and, at 5 p.m., attended a concert in the clubhouse.

5 December. About 800 troops assembled on the parade ground at 9:30 a.m. and, following the review, were off duty for the rest of the day.

6 December. Artillery drill at section level and subsequently at battery level from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Each battery numbered about 95 men. About 150 men of the division headquarters took showers at 5 p.m.

7 December. Artillery drill, during which the efficiency of the batteries, the sections and the individual soldiers was rated, was held in the central barracks yard after 10 a.m. It involved two batteries of about 95 soldiers each. Soldiers sitting at tables draped with red cloth registered the points. The personnel of two

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batteries, carrying rifles, submachine guns and practice targets, marched to Bornstedterfeld at 1 p.m. Indoctrination began in the clubhouse at 5 p.m. Eighteen soldiers returned from furlough in the U.S.S.R.

8 December. The troops policed the billeting area and cleaned their weapons. Lieutenant Colonel "Musin" and another officer entered the installation [redacted] at 1 p.m. A major riding [redacted] arrived at the brigade headquarters at 1:40 p.m. The service station in the billeting area was refilled with gasoline from tank trucks [redacted]

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10 December. An examining commission arrived in the installation in bus [redacted]. Artillery drill with two 152-mm guns and about 45 soldiers was held in the large barracks yard from 9:30 a.m. to noon. The efficiency of the soldiers in loading and direct aiming was rated. About 30 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying rifles and submachine guns were rated regarding their proficiency in close-order drill at the central barracks yard. About 95 soldiers practiced aiming at Bornstedterfeld from 1 to 3 p.m. A unit of 1 officer, 4 NCOs and 30 signal troopers was seen marching to Bornstedterfeld. The soldiers carried pack reels and field telephones. The officers of the brigade and the division headquarters met in the large club at 5 p.m. A work directive for firing in the installation was signed by Guard Colonel Karpov (fnu), commanding officer of the unit; and countersigned by Administrative Officer Zudarikov (fnu). [redacted] Karpov was in com and of the brigade.

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11 December. A general, member of the examining commission, arrived at the installation [redacted]. The commission, consisting of officers ranking from major upwards and wearing silver epaulets, stayed in the billeting area throughout the day and inspected all installations, such as the heating systems, the kitchens, the dispensary etc. A colonel and a lieutenant colonel without artillery insignia arrived at the installation [redacted] at noon. The brigade commander left the installation [redacted] at 2 p.m.

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Trucks [redacted]

[redacted] were parked in the barracks yard. The troops received theoretical instruction in their quarters from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. All garage doors were open after 10:45 a.m., with the gun crews standing by their guns. One battery commander's telescope, 3 aiming circles and 2 direct sighting telescopes (sic) were set up in the barracks yard, with 12 soldiers and six members of the examining commission standing by. About 95 soldiers were rated regarding their efficiency in rifle and submachine gun drill in the central barracks yard, with members of the commission witnessing the event. A sand-table area was prepared behind the small clubhouse. Four shelters with direct-vision slots opening toward the sand-table area were occupied by soldiers. A telephone wire led to the attic of the small clubhouse, whose windows had supports which looked like small machine gun mounts, and mounted carbines were seen. Soldiers aimed these carbines at targets in the sand-table area and fired them, in the presence of members of the commission.

12 December. The examining commission was still in the billeting area. Theoretical instruction was held in the quarters from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Two 122-mm guns and 2 x 152-mm guns, towed by prime movers [redacted]

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[redacted] left the billeting area for Bornstedterfeld at 11 a.m. One sergeant, 1 driver and 10 soldiers were with each gun.

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13 and 14 December. The examining commission did not enter the billeting area. The troops were engaged in duty in the garages.

15 December. General policing of the installation.

3. Since about 10 December, two artillery pieces have been overhauled in the unit's workshop every two to four days. Their barrels were removed during this process. Officers identified in the billeting area included: Captain Zaborski

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(fnu), mess officer; Major Nikichin (fnu), clothing supply officer; and Major Manzor (fnu), fuel supply officer. (1)

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4. Because the showers in the southern section of the Delius Kaserne were out of order, the troops went to the northern section to wash. On 10 December, Administrative Officer Sheplakov (fnu) requested that 1,500 troops from the southern section of the installation be permitted to take showers. Truck [redacted] arrived at the boiler house with a load of coal. [redacted]

5. Up to 11 December, the Garde-du-Corps Kaserne quartered a motor transport unit of about 300 troops. Trucks [redacted] were seen leaving the installation, being driven by soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets with motor transport insignia. [redacted]

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6. No changes in the occupation of the Adolf Hitler Kaserne on Pappele Allee were determined up to 11 December. All officers entering the installation were issued a special permit at the guardhouse, which was to be turned in again when the officers left the installation. A general riding in sedan [redacted] arrived in the billeting area on 11 December. In addition, sedans [redacted] were seen entering the installation. (3)

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7. No sentries were noticed at the Ruinenberg Kaserne on 11 December. A radio station of four 15-meter masts, arranged in a square, with a side length of about 100 meters, was seen in the billeting area for the first time. Each mast was braced by four guy lines, and all mast heads were connected by two wires strung along the sides of the square. Two more wires ran from each mast head to the ground. Nine trucks towing 45-mm AT guns and kitchen truck [redacted] were seen leaving the installation. [redacted]

(4)

8. Up to 11 December, the personnel in the Adolf Hitler Kaserne began their daily duties between 8 and 9 p.m. and finished them between 4 and 5 p.m. Most of the officers and military officials working there came from the restricted Neuer Garten area, and some from the city center and the Kriegsschule at Bornstedt. About 75 percent of the officers working in the Adolf Hitler Kaserne wore artillery, tank, motor transport and air force insignia, and the rest were military officials. With the exception of two German laundresses, all German kitchen helpers had been replaced by about 25 Russian women who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets and were billeted in the Kriegsschule at Bornstedt. A military official, with the rank of a general, was seen leaving the Adolf Hitler Kaserne toward the city on 10 December. Sedans [redacted] and truck [redacted]

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loaded with ration supplies, were identified in the billeting area. [redacted] primarily Soviet engineers were working in one building of the installation. [redacted]

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9. About 75 percent of the personnel working in the Kriegsschule at Bornstedt were military officials, while the rest were officers who wore primarily black-bordered crimson epaulets with motor transport insignia. In addition, Soviet men and women in civilian clothes and uniformed women with black-bordered crimson epaulets were noticed in the billeting area. [redacted] numbered: [redacted]

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10. Between 7 and 11 December, the northern section of the Polizei Kaserne quartered about 150 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia, and the southern section, another 150 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets. The latter unit furnished the guard personnel for the Adolf Hitler Kaserne and the Kriegsschule at Bornstedt. A horse-drawn vehicle was seen daily hauling ration supplies to the Polizei Kaserne at 8 a.m. Truck [redacted] was identified there. 50X1-HUM
11. On 18 December, the General Wever Kaserne was occupied by about 450 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery, motor transport and signal insignia; and about 50 Soviet airmen. Close-order drill at platoon level was noticed in the billeting area on 17 December. Two 76.2-mm artillery pieces stood in front of the armory. [redacted] installation were numbered: [redacted] 50X1-HUM
- [redacted]
- Construction work in the northwestern section of the installation and in the section quartering German Volkspolizei personnel continued. The newly constructed boiler house started operating.
12. In mid-December, the roof of the one building of the barracks installation in Biche, which was being rebuilt, was being tiled. Preparations for the reconstruction of the second building were made. The area surrounding the two buildings was being cleared of debris.
13. No changes in the occupation of the barracks installation in Wildpark-West were noticed prior to 18 December. Sentries there wore black-bordered black epaulets. About 20 soldiers received rifle drill at squad level while about 15 soldiers engaged in record firing with carbines at the makeshift target range south of the installation on 17 December. Sedan [redacted] was seen leaving the billeting area. (3) 50X1-HUM
14. Until 21 December, the southern section of the Delius Kaserne was occupied by about 600 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. [redacted] One sedan, 1 ambulance, 10 trucks, 2 trailers, and 1 field kitchen were parked in front of the garages on 17 December. About 45 soldiers sang while marching around the barracks yard, and another 30 soldiers policed the billeting area. Trucks [redacted] were seen leaving the installation. (2) 50X1-HUM
15. Up to 21 December, the northern section of the Delius Kaserne was occupied by about 600 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery insignia. [redacted] Four trucks, 3 prime movers and 1 x 122-mm field howitzer stood in front of the garages on 18 December. Two prime movers towing two 122-mm field howitzers were seen leaving for Bornstedterfeld. Truck [redacted] carrying 10 artillery officers and 5 MI, stood at the guard house. A prime mover towing a 76.2-mm field gun was seen moving toward Bornstedterfeld on 21 December. (1) 50X1-HUM
16. Up to 21 December, the Mohonlohe Kaserne quartered about 600 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery insignia. No training activity was noticed. Fifteen empty trucks [redacted] were parked near the guard house on 21 December. Trucks [redacted] each carrying 10 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia, were seen leaving the installation. Trucks [redacted] 50X1-HUM

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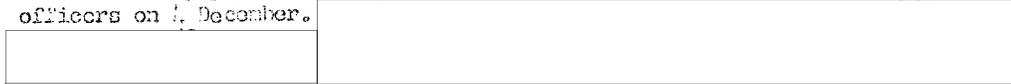


each towing an 85-mm AA gun, were identified in the billeting area. Four officers and about 45 soldiers were observed with these two trucks. (5)

17. Up to 21 December, the Ludendorff Kaserne quartered about 50 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery insignia. Eleven 37-mm AA guns stood in front of the garages and an additional 5 x 37-mm AA guns were used for drill in the barracks yard on 18 December. Crews of from 6 to 8 men practiced aiming with 9 x 37-mm AA guns on 20 December while an additional 7 x 37-mm AA guns with about 60 soldiers were seen in the garages. Intensive activity within the barracks buildings was noticed on 21 December. Sixteen 37-mm AA guns and eight trucks were in the garages. A unit of 2 officers and 4 men, wearing artillery insignia and carrying entrenching tools was seen leaving the installation toward Amundsenstrasse. (5)

18. A villa at the intersection of Gregor Mendel Strasse and Wildenbruchstrasse housed the ambulance unit which was previously located at Bertinistrasse. Seven ambulances were seen at the villa. Truck [redacted] was observed departing. 50X1-HUM (4)

19. At the end of November, Soviet traffic IPs thoroughly inspected all Soviet military vehicles on the exit roads to Hellitz, Geltow-Werder and on Leipzigerstrasse (Niedendorfer Chaussee). Each checkpoint consisted of 2 officers and 4 men who examined documentation and inspected the mechanical condition of the vehicles. Except for five women, all 160 German men and women employed in the military post hospital on Koenigsweg were discharged and replaced by Soviet women who wore uniforms with black-bordered crimson epaulets. Trucks [redacted] daily picked up about 20 Soviet women at the hotel on Messerstrasse in the morning and delivered them there in the evening. The women allegedly received the food ration of privates and drew a monthly pay of 30 eastmarks. The hotel on Messerstrasse billeted 450 officers on 4 December. 50X1-HUM 50X1-HUM



20. [redacted]
21. [redacted]

22. Up to 14 December, the Kavallerie Schule in Kraupnitz quartered an undetermined number of troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with tank insignia. Trucks [redacted] were seen hauling coal to the billeting area on 9 December. The turrets of eight tanks, apparently T-34/85s, were seen in [redacted] 50X1-HUM 50X1-HUM

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front of a garage in the southeastern section of the billeting area on 14 December.

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[Redacted]

(7)

Comments.

- (1) The information confirms the northern section of the Dolius Kaserne as quartering components of the 30th Gds Gun Arty Brig. [Redacted] up to December 1951. [Redacted] the installation quartered two battalions, each having 2 x 122-mm batteries and 2 x 152-mm batteries; and one recruit battalion consisting of 2 x 122-mm batteries and 1 x 152-mm battery.

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The World War II T/O of a gun artillery brigade authorizes 2,200 men and 72 artillery pieces per brigade.

Since the present 30th Gds Gun Arty Brig appears to consist of only 6 batteries with a total of about 1,100 men and 32 artillery pieces, its strength is only 50 percent of the T/O & E strength determined in World War II. However, it is believed that the present strength of a gun artillery brigade has not dropped as much below the war strength [Redacted] but the strength seems to have been reduced in an effort to increase mobility at the expense of fire power. A gun brigade now consists of three or four independent battalions without intermediate regimental headquarters.

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[Redacted] the 30th Gds Gun Arty Brig is equipped with model M-31/37 122-mm field guns and model M-37 152-mm gun howitzers. AT guns of 76.2 mm, repeatedly observed in the billeting area, seem to be organically assigned to the brigade for close-range AT protection. Gds Colonel Karpov (fnu) who is reported for the first time, is now tentatively carried as commanding officer of the brigade.

- (2) The southern section of the Dolius Kaserne is known to house the headquarters and headquarters units of the unidentified artillery division, Potsdam, and components of the unidentified gun artillery brigade.

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[Redacted] report estimated the number of troops in the southern section of the installation at 2,200. In consideration of the deductions made in Comment (1), the estimate of 1,500 troops in paragraph 4 of the present report appears to be more to the point. The 130th How Arty Brig or Gun Arty Brig has been identified in or after World War II.

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- (3) [Redacted]
- (4) A four-mast radio station in the Hohenlohe Kaserne is reported for the first time. A report of early November 1951 [Redacted] indicated that a signal unit was newly stationed there. The headquarters of the unit seemed to be located in the new restricted area bounded by Parkstrasse, Silberbruchstrasse and Erbor Mendelstrasse just southwest of the Hohenlohe Kaserne.

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[Redacted] the AT guns mentioned in the present report belong to the unidentified artillery division, Potsdam.

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- (5) The information [Redacted] confirmed [Redacted] the Hohenlohe Kaserne and the Badendorff Kaserne as quartering components of the 2d Gds AAA Div. The latter installation probably quartered a light AAA regiment of the division.

[Redacted]. The 16 x 37-mm AA guns mentioned in the present report as having been observed on several days exactly correspond with the T/O of a light AAA regiment.

- (6) [Redacted] confirms the Hq 2d Gds AAA Div in Potsdam, and [Redacted] the division's 300th Gds AAA Regt in Potsdam up to 13 November 1951. [Redacted] is probably a component of the unidentified gun artillery brigade in Potsdam.

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- (7) [Redacted]

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